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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CRITICIZE LOW MEMBERSHIP IN FRONT GROUPS; TRAIN TURKISH TEACHERS

FATHERLAND FRONT ORGANIZATIONS SHOW POOR ENROLLMENT -- Sofia, Izgrev, 22 Nov 50

The expected mass enrollment of the population in Fatherland Front organizations has met with very poor success throughout Pazardzhik Okoliya. Whereas during the second quarter 1950 the organizations made a serious effort and enrolled 3,100 new members, the influx during the third quarter was quite insignificant. As of 21 November 1950, only 21 percent of all voters in the okoliya were enrolled in the front, which is a very inadequate number. In some villages the membership comprises only 10 percent of the population. In Malo Konare village, with a population of 5,000, only 171 persons have enrolled, and the same proportion holds in many other villages. The number of women members is also very low and does not exceed 20 percent.

The reason for this failure is that local Fatherland Front administrations are underestimating their responsibility for enrolling members. An active propaganda campaign is being conducted at present to enroll 40 percent of all voters before the end of the year. The subordinate organizations are establishing three-member commissions, which visit the workers, explain the nature and purpose of the organization, and invite them to enroll. The propaganda campaign for mass enrollment must be still further intensified, with the final goal of enrolling every worker in the okoliya.

TRADE UNIONS PREVENT WORKERS FROM TAKING WINDY COURSES -- Sofia, Izgrev, 24 Nov 50

The campaign to eliminate illiteracy, conducted under the slogan "not a single illiterate at the end of 1953," is generally making satisfactory progress. However, in many areas the activities are conducted exclusively by the Ministry of Education and teachers, while public organizations remain aloof and sometimes even attempt to hinder the campaign. Thus, some trade unions do not authorize workers to attend the courses on the assumption that fulfillment of production plans might be delayed. This attitude has been noted in a number of Sofia enterprises.

- 1 -

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Furthermore, Dimitorv Youth organizations have not participated in the campaign with the expected interest and energy. Youth organizations should more closely follow the example of the Soviet Komsomol.

OPERATE TURKISH TEACHERS' COLLEGE -- Sofin, Rabotnichesko Delo, 19 Nov 50

A residential college for primary-school teachers was opened in Stara Zagora in 1947 and has already trained a considerable number of young Turkish men and women for the teaching profession. The institute has a budget of 10,000 leva, and it graduated 250 young teachers in the 1949 - 1950 school year. The courses are conducted in Turkish and emphasize the heroic struggle of Turkish patriots against their foreign oppressors. Marxist-Leninist theory is taught in special extracurricular courses, and numerous political groups have been established among the students. The courses also emphasize the odious policies of US imperialists and their Turkish followers, and the scandalous attitude of the Turkish government in the problem of emigration from Bulgaria.

WRITE NEW BULGARIAN HISTORY -- Sofia, Izgrev, 22 Nov 50

The Institute of Bulgarian History at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has established two special sections: one for the ancient history of the country and one for modern history. The latter section is to compile a study of historical problems from the beginning of the 19th century to the present. The section will also conduct research and publish documents on the history of the revolutionary labor movement, the rural movement, etc.

A collective of 19 specialists has started to prepare the new history book. The first phase of the work, consisting of a detailed plan of the history, was completed on 1 June 1950. The second phase, consisting of an exposition of the essential materials and problems discussed in the book, has already been finished also. At present, the group is working at its main assignment, the writing of the history book. The deadline for its completion is the end of July 1951.

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- 2 -

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